

CLAIMS

1. Apparatus for pressing edible articles (24, 36) comprising a holding device (10) with at least one channel (11) for circulation of cooling liquid and carrying independently suspended plungers (12) having lower parts (13; 34) with pressing surfaces (14; 35) to be pressed into contact with the chocolate mass (15) as well as having upper parts (16) with sliding surfaces (17) supported by opposite sliding surfaces (18) of openings (19) in the holding device (10),

characterized in,

that each plunger (12) comprises a lower part (13; 34) with non-circular cross-section and at least two upper parts (16) with circular cross-sections, and that the parts (13;34, 16) are separate parts, which are joined together.
2. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that the upper and lower parts (13, 16) are joined to each other by screw joints (20).
3. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that at least the major part of the circular cross-sections of the upper plunger parts (16) are arranged within the outer periphery of the cross-sections of the lower plunger parts (13).
4. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that the diameter of the upper parts (16) with sliding surfaces (17) are equal to or less than the greatest width of the lower plunger parts (16).
5. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that at least one of the non-circular cross-sections of the lower plunger parts are different from the others.
6. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that the apparatus comprises a closure plate (21) having openings (22) through which the lower plunger parts (13) extends, and which is movably suspended below the holding device (10).
7. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that the apparatus is adapted to keep the temperature of the pressing surfaces (14) below the solidification temperature.

ture of the tempered chocolate mass during the pressing thereof by circulation of cooling liquid through the channels (11) of the holding device (10).

5 8. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that the upper and lower plunger parts (16, 13) are essentially free from inner channels for flow of cooling liquid.

9. Apparatus according to claim 1, characterised in, that the mass is pressed in underlying mould cavities (7).

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